

North American Wetlands Conservation Act

Protecting, Restoring, and Enhancing Habitat for Migratory Birds

The North American Wetlands Conservation Act of 1989 provides matching grants to organizations and partnerships to carry out wetlands conservation projects in the United States, Canada, and Mexico.



Accomplishments

Since 1991, the North American Wetlands Conservation Act has conserved an area larger than the state of Tennessee across three countries. NAWCA grants have supported protection, restoration, and enhancement of wetlands in all 50 U.S. states, 31 Mexican states, 10 Canadian provinces, and multiple territories. More than 3,900 partners have matched grant funds two-to-one, tripling the impact on the ground.

Grant and matching funds support projects aiming to protect, restore, or enhance wetland and associated upland migratory bird habitats, benefiting priority species including waterfowl, shorebirds, waterbirds, and landbirds.



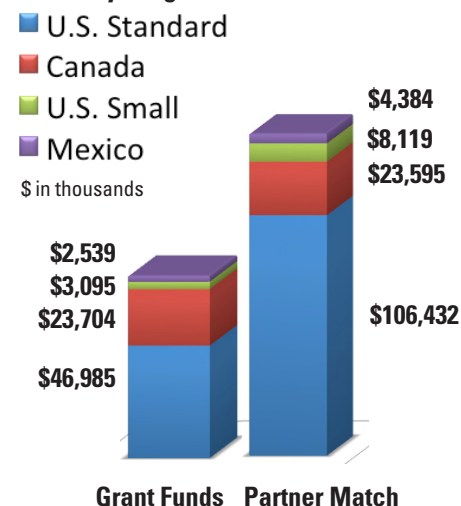
The Lesser Scaup is a North American Wetlands Conservation Act high priority waterfowl species. Credit: Roger Baker/USFWS

The Process

Applicants submit project proposals to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Division of Bird Habitat Conservation. Eligible proposals are presented to the North American Wetlands Conservation Council, which reviews, ranks, and recommends projects to the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission for final funding approval. The Division of Bird Habitat Conservation awards and administers the approved grant projects.

2014 Grants

Grants by Program:



Bird Habitat Impacts since 1991

Grant Funding: \$1.3 billion

Match: \$2.7 billion

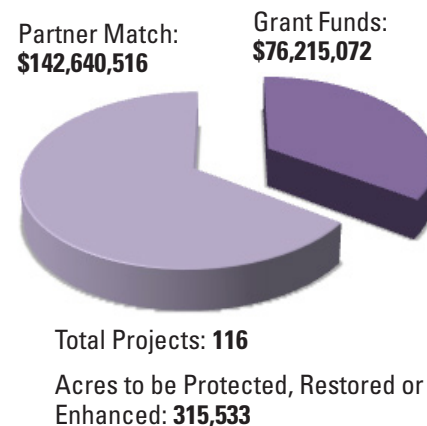
Projects: 2,421

Acres Affected: 27 million



NAWCA protects wetlands in the U.S., Canada and Mexico. Credit: USFWS

Grant and Match Totals:





Mallard female with ducklings. Mallard ducks are a NAWCA high priority species
Credit: Tom Koerner/USFWS

Project Highlights

In 2014, approved projects will invest nearly \$62 million in federal funds to 44 grantees throughout North America including:

U.S. Standard Grants Program

- \$934,000 to protect 395 acres in the Kennebec River Estuary in Maine, the northernmost migratory waterfowl concentration area in the Atlantic Flyway. (Kennebec Estuary Land Trust)

Canada Grants Program

- \$11,926,699 to secure 9,918 acres of waterfowl breeding habitat in the Canadian Prairie, Parkland and Western Boreal Forest regions. (Ducks Unlimited Canada)

Mexico Grants Program

- \$355,430 to protect 4,607 acres of the Los Corrales Ranch through a conservation agreement, as well as enhance 306 acres of freshwater wetlands, and restore 1.25 miles of the Arroyo del Tigre. (Pronatura Northeast)

U.S. Small Grants Program

- \$75,000 to conserve 94 acres of high priority wetlands and streams in Massachusetts, creating a continuous mile of protected river corridor. (Kestrel Land Trust)

History

Over the past 23 years, the North American Wetlands Conservation Act has provided funds to protect and restore more than 27 million acres in the United States, Mexico, and Canada. The Act was originally passed to support activities under the North American Waterfowl Management Plan, an international agreement that provides a strategy for the long-term protection of wetland and associated upland habitats needed by waterfowl and other migratory birds. The Act has since expanded its scope to include the conservation of wetland-associated migratory birds listed in the U.S. Shorebird Conservation Plan, the North American Waterbird Conservation Plan, and the Partners In Flight Conservation Plans.

More Information

Please visit www.fws.gov/birdhabitat/Grants/NAWCA/ or contact the Division of Bird Habitat Conservation, (703) 358-1784, dbhc@fws.gov.



American Black Duck is a NAWCA high priority species. Credit: P. McGowan/USFWS

Migratory Bird Conservation Commission

Honorable Sally Jewell (Chair), Secretary of the Interior
Honorable Thad Cochran, Senator from Mississippi
Honorable John Dingell, Representative from Michigan
Honorable Mark Pryor, Senator from Arkansas
Honorable Robert Wittman, Representative from Virginia
Honorable Gina McCarthy, Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency
Honorable Tom Vilsack, Secretary of Agriculture
A. Eric Alvarez (Secretary), Chief, Division of Realty, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

North American Wetlands Conservation Council

Wayne MacCallum (Chair), Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife
Terry Steinwand (Vice Chair), North Dakota Game and Fish Department
Dan Ashe, Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Mary Pope Hutson, Land Trust Alliance
David Nomsen, Pheasants Forever
Jeff Trandahl, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
Keith Ouchley (Alternate), The Nature Conservancy of Louisiana
Mark Elsbree (Ex Officio), The Conservation Fund
Glenn Olson (Ex Officio), National Audubon Society
Sue Milburn-Hopwood (Ex Officio), Canadian Wildlife Service
Jorge Maksabedian de la Roquette (Ex Officio), SEMARNAT-Dirección General de Vida Silvestre, Mexico
Cyndi Perry (Council Coordinator), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

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